

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David Sutter on 23 August 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In Claim ⁵8, the phrase starting in line 15 "does not contain any GeO₂, SnO, SnO₂, Sb₂O₃, AgO" has been replaced by - - does not contain any GeO₂, SnO₂, AgO- -

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-12 and 19-27 are allowed.

Reason for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fail to disclose or suggest a glass composition having the composition as recited in the instant claims, wherein the glass composition is a boron aluminosilicate glass further comprising P₂O₅, Na₂O, K₂O, BaO, ZnO as required components in the amounts as recited. Furthermore this glass is an optical glass, which is free of lead.

The closest prior art is deemed to be JP 60-221338 A1 by Inoue. Inoue discloses a similar composition when the components of the glass are compared irrelevant of the glass composition as a whole. Inoue teaches a heavy metal borate glass having an as expected high refractive index based on the rare earth concentrations. The compositional ranges and examples of Inoue are not drawn towards a boro-alumino-silicate glass as in the instant invention. The glasses of Inoue are material distinct from the glasses of the instant claims.